

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ATHENS 03030 041627Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /065 W  
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AMCONSUL MUNICH  
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 3030

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, GR  
SUBJECT: THEOTOKIS CONTINUES HIS ATTACK ON CARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT

REF: ATHENS 1144 (NOTAL)

1. BEGING UNCLASSIFIED. ROYALIST SYMPATHIZER AND FORMER  
NEW DEMOCRACY DEPUTY SPYRIDON THEOTOKIS HAS AGAIN LEVIED A  
SHARP BLAST AT THE POLICIES PURSUED BY THE CARAMANLIS  
GOVERNMENT AND CALLED FOR THE RESTITUTION OF THE MONARCHY.  
IN AN ARTICLE APPEARING IN THE MARCH 31 ISSUE OF THE WEST  
GERMAN PUBLICATION "MUNCHEN KURIER" THEOTOKIS ATTACKED  
PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS FOR ALLOWING THE COMMUNISTS AND  
THE EXTREME LEFT FREEDOM TO SPREAD THEIR INFLUENCE, AND  
MADE A SERIES OF OTHER CHARGES ABOUT CARAMANLIS' DOMESTIC  
AND FOREIGN POLICIES. HE CALLED FOR THE REESTABLISHMENT OF  
THE INSTITUTION OF THE MONARCHY, ARGUING THAT THE  
KING OFFERED THE BEST MEANS FOR PRESERVING POLITICAL  
STABILITY, IN THE FACE OF GREEK POLITICAL FACTIONALISM,  
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PAGE 02 ATHENS 03030 041627Z

AND THE COUNTRY'S WESTER ORIENTATION.

2. IN THE FOREIGN POLICY AREA THEOTOKIS DISAGREED WITH  
CARAMANLIS' OFT-QUOTED PHRASE "EXTERNALLY WE ARE GOING  
WELL" HE CLAIMED THAT, TO THE CONTRARY, GREECE'S  
POSITION ABORAD IS DETERIORATING, CITING RELATIONS WITH  
TURKEY, WITH THE U.S., AND WITH NATO AS PROOF. CARAMANLIS'

SIMPLE ASSURANCE THAT GREECE'S PLACE "IS IN THE WEST" IS INSUFFICIENT, HE CONTINUED. GREECE MUST CHANGE HER PRESENT ORIENTATION, HE URGED, AND TRULY INTEGRATE HERSELF INTO THE STRUCTURE OF THE WEST, FOR ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND DEFENSE REASONS, ALTHOUGH THE WESTERN WORLD SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT THE GREEKS WERE TRAUMATIZED BY THE POSITION OF THE ENGLISH AND THE AMERICANS WHO PERMITTED THE TURKS TO OCCUPY PART OF CYPRUS.

3. THEOTOKIS' ARTICLE, ENTITLED "WHERE IS GREECE HEADING," RECEIVED SCANT ATTENTION IN THE LOCAL MEDIA. ONLY EXTREME RIGHT ELEFTHEROS COSMOS REPRINTED THE TEXT IN FULL (ON APRIL 2) WITH OTHER NEWSPAPERS CONFINING THEIR COVERAGE TO DATE ONLY TO BRIEF SUMMARIES. IN AN EDITORIAL, SAVVAS CONSTANTOPOULOS, OWNER OF ELEFTHEROS COSMOS, EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH THEOTOKIS' VIEWS BUT CRITICIZED HIM FOR NOT TAKING A CLEARER POSITION. THEOTOKIS, HE SAID, SHOULD EITHER PROCEED TO ENGAGE IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES (I.E. FORM A ROYALIST PARTY) OR, IF HE DOES NOT WANT TO BECOME ACTIVE IN PUBLIC LIFE, STOP MAKING PUBLIC STATEMENTS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: COMMENT: THEOTOKIS' CATALOGUE OF EVILS OF THE CARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT AND ITS ALLEGED SELL-OUT TO THE COMMUNISTS IS FAMILIAR AND IS BEING CIRCULATED REGULARLY, AND FOR SOME TIME NOW, BY OTHER ROYALISTS AND RIGHTISTS AS WELL. MOREOVER, HIS PERIODIC OUTBREAKS APPEAL TO THE ULTRA CONSERVATIVE SEGMENT OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03     ATHENS 03030 041627Z

GREEK PUBLIC WHICH IS NOT AT ALL PLEASED WITH THE MODERATE POLICIES OF THE CARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT AND WHICH LONGS FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE MONARCHY. ON THE OTHER HAND, CONSTANTPOOULOS PROBABLY REFLECTS THE FRUSTRATION OF MANY FROM THIS GROUP OVER THE UNWILLINGNESS OF ANY LEADING ULTRA CONSERVATIVE POLITICAL FIGURE TO CHALLENGE PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS OPENLY IN THE FACE OF HIS STILL OVERWHELMING POSITION OF PREPONDERANCE ON THE GREEK POLITICAL SCENE. ALTHOUGH THEOTOKIS SEEMS TO BE EDGING GINGERLY IN THIS DIRECTION, HE, LIKE OTHER RIGHTIST LEADERS WITH ANY SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY, IS PROBABLY RELUCTANT TO SPLIT THE NON-COMMUNIST FORCES IN GREECE AT THIS CRITICAL JUNCTURE. NEVERTHELESS, WE EXPECT WE WILL CONTINUE TO HEAR ABOUT THE POSSIBLE FORMATION OF A "RESPECTABLE" ROYALIST PARTY, IN WHICH THEOTOKIS' NAME WILL FIGURE, AND OF IMPENDING DEFECTIONS FROM THE CARAMANLIS CAMP OF ROYALISTS AND EXTREME RIGHTISTS. KUBISCH

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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